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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/915,301	07/27/2001	Glenn E. Riggs	6065/1	5817

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BROWN, RAYSMAN, MILLSTEIN, FELDER & STEINER LLP
900 THIRD AVENUE
NEW YORK, NY 10022

EXAMINER

MEINECKE DIAZ, SUSANNA M

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

3623

DATE MAILED: 09/23/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Advisory Action	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	09/915,301	RIGGS ET AL.
Examiner	Art Unit	
Susanna M. Diaz	3623	

--The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

THE REPLY FILED 02 September 2003 FAILS TO PLACE THIS APPLICATION IN CONDITION FOR ALLOWANCE. Therefore, further action by the applicant is required to avoid abandonment of this application. A proper reply to a final rejection under 37 CFR 1.113 may only be either: (1) a timely filed amendment which places the application in condition for allowance; (2) a timely filed Notice of Appeal (with appeal fee); or (3) a timely filed Request for Continued Examination (RCE) in compliance with 37 CFR 1.114.

PERIOD FOR REPLY [check either a) or b)]

a) The period for reply expires _____ months from the mailing date of the final rejection.
 b) The period for reply expires on: (1) the mailing date of this Advisory Action, or (2) the date set forth in the final rejection, whichever is later. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of the final rejection.
 ONLY CHECK THIS BOX WHEN THE FIRST REPLY WAS FILED WITHIN TWO MONTHS OF THE FINAL REJECTION. See MPEP 706.07(f).

Extensions of time may be obtained under 37 CFR 1.136(a). The date on which the petition under 37 CFR 1.136(a) and the appropriate extension fee have been filed is the date for purposes of determining the period of extension and the corresponding amount of the fee. The appropriate extension fee under 37 CFR 1.17(a) is calculated from: (1) the expiration date of the shortened statutory period for reply originally set in the final Office action; or (2) as set forth in (b) above, if checked. Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of the final rejection, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

1. A Notice of Appeal was filed on _____. Appellant's Brief must be filed within the period set forth in 37 CFR 1.192(a), or any extension thereof (37 CFR 1.191(d)), to avoid dismissal of the appeal.
2. The proposed amendment(s) will not be entered because:
 - (a) they raise new issues that would require further consideration and/or search (see NOTE below);
 - (b) they raise the issue of new matter (see Note below);
 - (c) they are not deemed to place the application in better form for appeal by materially reducing or simplifying the issues for appeal; and/or
 - (d) they present additional claims without canceling a corresponding number of finally rejected claims.

NOTE: _____.

3. Applicant's reply has overcome the following rejection(s): The rejection of claims 32-45 under 35 U.S.C. 101.
4. Newly proposed or amended claim(s) _____ would be allowable if submitted in a separate, timely filed amendment canceling the non-allowable claim(s).
5. The a) affidavit, b) exhibit, or c) request for reconsideration has been considered but does NOT place the application in condition for allowance because: See Continuation Sheet.
6. The affidavit or exhibit will NOT be considered because it is not directed SOLELY to issues which were newly raised by the Examiner in the final rejection.
7. For purposes of Appeal, the proposed amendment(s) a) will not be entered or b) will be entered and an explanation of how the new or amended claims would be rejected is provided below or appended.

The status of the claim(s) is (or will be) as follows:

Claim(s) allowed: _____.

Claim(s) objected to: _____.

Claim(s) rejected: 1-45.

Claim(s) withdrawn from consideration: _____.

8. The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is a) approved or b) disapproved by the Examiner.

9. Note the attached Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s). 12.

10. Other: _____.

*Susanna Diaz
 Susanna Diaz
 Primary Examiner
 A.U.3623*

Continuation of 5. does NOT place the application in condition for allowance because: Applicant merely requests clarification on Examiner's position regarding the arguments concerning the "electronic abstract" recited in claim 26 (page 15 of Applicant's after-final response (paper no. 16)). More specifically, "applicants argued that the obvious rejection of claim 26 did not establish that the 'electronic abstract' feature of claim 26 was suggested in the applied prior art." (page 15 of paper no. 16) The Examiner respectfully refers Applicant to the rejection of claims 26 and 31 (which is dependent from claim 26), found on pages 15 and 17-18 of Final Office action (paper no. 13). Merriam Webster's Collegiate Dictionary (10th ed.) defines an abstract as "a summary of points." The previous Examiner of record took Official Notice that "it is old and well known in the art of transport and shipping to have an electronic abstract (or written contract or proposals) to review when deciding on a carrier and to select a carrier based on the abstract" (pages 17-18 of paper no. 13). In paper no. 13, the previous Examiner also cited the article "Take It To The Limit" to support her taking of Official Notice. Paragraph 4 of "Take It To The Limit" discloses that shippers receive quotes from carriers in order to select the best carrier(s) and then the shippers can request more detailed proposals from these carriers (paragraph 4). These quotes are understood to be less detailed than the proposals and therefore serve as an "abstract," i.e., summary of points, regarding carrier quote characteristics to be compared.